

Youth Conservation Corps. The program provided education and job training to 45 underserved young adults; produced nearly 83,000 service hours, and yielded nearly \$1.5 million in community improvement projects.

Unfortunately, Youth Corps programs today must cobble together funding from a wide variety of sources, and they operate with tremendous uncertainty. The Youth Corps Act of 2011 would provide more stability for Youth Corps affiliates and the youth they serve by authorizing a new program through the Workforce Investment Act, WIA.

I thank Congressman ANDREWS for his continued leadership on this bill and urge my colleagues to support this effort.

RECIPIENTS OF THE MEDAL OF
FREEDOM

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to this year's recipients of the Medal of Freedom, our Nation's highest civilian honor; to individuals who have made our country stronger, our culture richer, our world more peaceful; to men and women who have helped shape our history and lay the foundation for a better future.

In bestowing this honor, President Obama highlighted leaders of vision and courage. Each hails from a different background. Their fields vary, ranging from public service to civil rights, from the arts to athletics, from poetry to politics, from environmental activism to labor and business. Yet they share a common commitment to bold leadership, principled action, and the common good.

In particular, I rise to recognize three recipients who I am privileged to call respected colleagues and friends.

Congressman JOHN LEWIS is the conscience of the Congress, a true hero of our history, and an inspiration to all who serve with him and to every American. From the first Freedom Ride in South Carolina to a "Bloody Sunday" in Selma to the well of the House, he stood for his own rights, and extended the blessings of liberty to others. He sought equality for African Americans, and secured justice for all. Through non-violence and courage, he advanced our most basic rights—to vote, to

speak, to assemble. JOHN LEWIS' story is a triumph for those whose souls cry out for freedom. No one is more deserving of this recognition.

Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith, founder of VSA, carries forward her family's torch of service, offering children and adults with disabilities the freedom to celebrate their artistic talents, and ushering in an era of peace and cooperation as our Nation's envoy to Ireland. For more than 35 years, she has worked to empower all people with disabilities to reach their full potential through the arts. She has long believed in the power of art to inspire and to connect individuals and communities of different backgrounds. Through her passion and her commitment, Jean Kennedy Smith has lived up to her own words: that "art is central to what makes us fully human."

John Sweeney has provided more than a strong voice for our middle class; he has fought for the freedom of our workers to organize, support their families, and earn a living wage. In California and nationwide, workers have never had a more resilient, more passionate champion than John Sweeney. His life's work is a tribute to fairness, equality, and opportunity for all. On behalf of working Americans—from the chambers of Sacramento to the halls of Washington, DC—when John Sweeney speaks out, America's leaders listen.

In their lifetimes of service, today's recipients of the Medal of Freedom have played a central role in upholding the promise of a better future for all Americans and for our fellow citizens of the world. To them, I offer congratulations and gratitude.

HELP BORDER HEALTHCARE

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 541, the Pay for All Your Undocumented Procedures (PAY UPI) Act. This bill will provide payments for emergency services provided to undocumented aliens.

The costs of uncompensated emergency care for undocumented immigrants are sky high and border area hospitals, physicians, and ambulance providers are choking on the costs that they have to eat. My bill, the Pay for All Your Undocumented Procedures (PAY

UPI) Act, is the first step to solving this problem which is well known in border communities.

Undocumented aliens receive emergency services in a hospital and yet that hospital is not reimbursed for these services. My bill will ensure that the healthcare providers are reimbursed for the emergency services they provide.

My bill makes permanent a provision of the Medicare Modernization Act that provided payments to eligible providers for procedures for undocumented aliens. The bill authorizes \$250 million a year to reimburse eligible providers for this care. Two-thirds of the funds are divided among the 50 states and the District of Columbia based on their relative percentages of undocumented aliens, the last third is divided among the 6 states with the largest number of undocumented aliens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, last Friday, February 11, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 32 (on the motion to recommit with instructions), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 33 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 72), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 34 (on approving the journal).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, yesterday evening, Monday, February 14, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote No. 35 (on the motion to recommit with instructions), "yes" on rollcall vote No. 36 (on passage of H.R. 514), and "yes" on rollcall vote No. 37 (on approving the journal).